

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows. Additions are underlined; deletions are in ~~strikeout~~ text.

1. (Previously Presented) A surf-action game comprising:
an inclined ride surface having a lower base portion and an upper ridge portion;
at least one nozzle disposed at or near said ride surface, said nozzle being sized and configured to receive a flow of water from a source and to inject said water as a sheet flow upward onto said ride surface; and
one or more toy surf-action figures adapted to ride and/or perform water skimming maneuvers upon said sheet flow of water and wherein at least one of said toy surf action figures comprises a control mechanism comprising a movable weight or magnet adapted to enable a play participant to actively control the location and/or orientation of the surf action figure in relation to the injected sheet flow.
2. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 wherein said inclined surface is bounded by side walls having a height above the ride surface sufficient to substantially contain the sheet flow of water thereon.
3. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 wherein said inclined surface is substantially containerless and without side walls.
4. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1, wherein the inclined surface has side edges and wherein drains, grates and/or channels are provided adjacent said side edges for allowing water to drain from the ride surface.
5. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 wherein said at least one nozzle comprises an elongated nozzle or series of nozzles extending substantially the width of said ride surface.
6. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 wherein said at least one nozzle comprises a plurality of nozzles spaced throughout the ride surface.
7. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 further comprising a reservoir for containing a body of water at a desired height and an opening at the base thereof forming said nozzle.

8. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 7 wherein said reservoir is connected to said source of water.

9. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 wherein said source of water comprises a recirculating pump.

10. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 5 wherein said source of water comprises a garden hose.

11. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 further comprising a grate or net on or adjacent the base portion of the ride surface.

12. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 11 further comprising a recovery pool disposed substantially under said grate or net.

13. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 12 wherein said source of water comprises a garden hose.

14. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 wherein said at least one of said toy surf action figures comprises a miniature molded human figure in a surfing pose.

15. (Original) The surf action game of Claim 1 wherein at least one of said toy surf action figures comprise a molded figure mounted on a miniature surf board.

16-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Presented) A surf-action game comprising:

a ride surface having a lower base portion and an upper ridge portion;

at least one nozzle disposed at or near said lower base portion of said ride surface, said nozzle being sized and configured to provide a flow of water upward onto said ride surface; and

one or more surf-action figures supported by said ride surface and/or said flow of water, said one or more surf-action figures being sized and configured to ride and/or perform simulated water skimming maneuvers upon said flow of water and wherein at least one of said surf action figures comprises a control mechanism comprising a movable weight adapted to enable a play participant to control the location and/or orientation of the surf action figure in relation to the flow of water.

42. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 41 wherein said ride surface is bounded by side walls having a height sufficient to substantially contain the flow of water thereon.

43. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 41 wherein said ride surface is substantially containerless and without side walls.

44. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 43 wherein the ride surface has side edges and wherein drains, grates and/or channels are provided adjacent said side edges for allowing water to drain from the ride surface.

45. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 41 wherein said at least one nozzle comprises an elongated nozzle or series of nozzles extending substantially the width of said ride surface.

46. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 41 wherein said at least one nozzle comprises a plurality of nozzles spaced throughout the ride surface.

47. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 41 wherein said at least one of said surf action figures comprises a miniature molded human figure in a surfing pose.

48. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 41 wherein at least one of said surf action figures comprise a molded figure mounted on a miniature surf board.

49. (Currently Amended) A surf-action game comprising:

a ride surface having a lower base portion and an upper ridge portion;
at least one nozzle disposed at or near said lower base portion of said ride surface, said nozzle being sized and configured to provide a flow of water upward onto said ride surface; and

one or more surf-action figures supported by said ride surface and/or said flow of water, said one or more surf-action figures being sized and configured to ride and/or perform simulated water skimming maneuvers upon said flow of water and wherein at ~~lest~~ least one of said surf action figures comprises a control mechanism comprising a magnet adapted to enable a play participant to control the location and/or orientation of the surf action figure in relation to the flow of water.

50. (Cancelled).

51. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 41 wherein said control mechanism further comprises a magnet.

52. (Previously Presented) The surf action game of Claim 41 wherein said control mechanism further comprises a radio controlled transmitter and receiver/actuator.

Please add the following new claims:

53. (New) A surf-action device comprising:

an inclined ride surface having a lower base portion and an upper ridge portion;

at least one nozzle disposed at or near said ride surface, said nozzle being sized and configured to receive a flow of pressurized water from a source and to inject the flow of pressurized water so that it flows up the inclined ride surface in a flow direction;

a ride figure comprising a riding vehicle adapted to ride upon and be supported by the flow of water; and

a constraint member physically attached to the ride figure, the constraint member adapted to apply a constraint force to the ride figure in a direction generally opposite the flow direction so as to control a position of the ride figure relative to the ride surface as the ride figure rides upon the flow of water;

wherein the constraint member comprises an elongate member attached to the ride figure, and the constraint force is communicated along the elongate member.

54. (New) The surf action device of Claim 53, wherein the ride figure has no propellant system for propelling the ride figure in a desired direction independent of external forces.

55. (New) The surf action device of Claim 53, wherein the constraint member is configured to apply a constraint force to the ride figure sufficient to maintain the ride figure in a stable riding position relative to the inclined ride surface while the ride figure rides upon the flow of water.

56. (New) The surf action device of Claim 55, wherein the elongate member comprises a wire.

57. (New) The surf action device of Claim 55, wherein the elongate member comprises a string.

58. (New) The surf action device of Claim 55, wherein the elongate member communicates with a source of the constraint force, and the constraint force source is spaced from the ride figure.

59. (New) The surf action device of Claim 58, wherein the constraint force source is provided by a play participant.

60. (New) The surf action device of Claim 55, wherein at least a portion of the inclined ride surface is upwardly concave in the flow direction.

61. (New) The surf action device of Claim 60, wherein the flow of water substantially conforms to the shape of the inclined ride surface.

62. (New) The surf action device of Claim 60, wherein the inclined ride surface and flow of water are configured to create a miniature curling wave.

63. (New) The surf action device of Claim 55, wherein the source of pressurized water comprises a pump.